

The Wonderful Stories Of "OZ" - By L. Frank Baum

Book Lovers

Drawn By C. D. BATCHELOR

THE boy, small and rather delicate in appearance, seemed somewhat embarrassed at being called "father" by the tall, awkward, pumpkin-headed man, but to deny the relationship would involve another long and tedious explanation; so he changed the subject by asking, abruptly:

"Are you tired?"

"Of course not!" replied the other. "I'm as fresh as a daisy, and I shall wear out my wooden joints if I keep on walking."

Tip reflected, as they journeyed on, that this was a very curious fellow, and he was sure that he had not constructed the wooden limbs more carefully and substantially. Yet how could he ever have guessed that the man he had made merely to scare old Mombi with would be brought to life by means of a magical power contained in an old pepper-box?

So he ceased to reproach himself, and began to think how he might yet remedy the deficiencies of Jack's weak joints.

While thus engaged they came to the edge of a wood, and the boy sat down to rest upon an old saw-horse that some woodcutter had left there.

"Why don't you sit down?" asked the pumpkinhead.

"Won't it strain my joints?" inquired the other.

"Of course not. I'll rest them," declared the boy.

So Jack tried to sit down, but as soon as he bent his joints farther than usual they gave way altogether, and he came clattering to the ground with such a crash that Tip feared he was entirely ruined.

He rushed to the man, lifted him to his feet, straightened his arms and legs, and felt of his head to see if by chance it had become cracked. But Jack seemed to be in pretty good shape, after all, and Tip said to him:

"I guess you'd better remain standing, hereafter. It seems the safest way."

"Very well, dear father; just as you say," replied the smiling Jack, who had been in no wise confused by his tumble.

Tip sat down again. Presently the pumpkinhead asked:

"What is that thing you are sitting on?"

"Selected As America's Most Beautiful Girl"

THE SAWHORSE COMES TO LIFE.

"Oh, this is a horse," replied the boy, carelessly.

"What is a horse?" demanded Jack.

"A horse? Why, there are two kinds of horses," returned Tip, slightly puzzled how to explain. "One kind of horse is alive, and four legs and a head and a tail. And people ride upon its back."

"I understand," said Jack cheerfully. "That's the kind of horse you are now sitting on."

"No, it isn't," answered Tip, promptly.

"Why not? That one has four legs, and a head, and a tail."

"That's true," said Tip, "but the saw-horse more than makes up for its lack of legs, while this is nothing more than a dead horse, made of wood, and used to scare boys."

"If it were alive, wouldn't it trot and gallop, and eat oats?" inquired the pumpkinhead.

"It would trot and gallop, perhaps; but it wouldn't eat oats," replied the boy.

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Q. Do all postmasters who have been in service for 30 years receive a pension? D. K. E.

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A. The daily average production in this country for June, 1920, was the highest ever recorded for any one month. It was 1,000,000 barrels, with a daily increase of almost 10,000 barrels.

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A. The 25th ward in Chicago has this distinction, covering more than 20 square miles and having a larger population than either Wyoming or Nevada.

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A. The steamship Susquehanna, which sailed from New York for the free city of Danzig, was the first passenger ship to sail under the American flag for these ports.

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A. Normally, about 20 percent of buildings constructed are dwellings, but in 1919 only 15 percent of the total was for this purpose.

Q. Is it wiser to specialize in one variety of potatoes or to grow several kinds? C. E. E.

A. The department of agriculture says that it is better to grow a single variety, or at most two varieties, one early and one late. In this way it is possible to become thoroughly familiar with the variety grown, and it is easier to keep it free from varietal mixtures. Community action is recommended, as it is easier to attract buyers to a locality if carried lots of a single kind can be purchased.

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but it wouldn't eat oats," replied the boy, laughing at the idea. "And of course it can't ever be alive, because it is made of wood."

"So are you," answered the man. Tip looked at him in surprise. "Why, so you are!" he exclaimed. "And the magic powder that brought you to life is here in my pocket!"

He brought out the pepper box, and eyed it curiously.

"I wonder," said he, amusingly, "if it would bring back saw-horses to life."

"If it would," returned Jack, calmly—for nothing seemed to surprise him—"I could ride on its back, and that would save my joints from wearing out."

"I'll try it!" cried the boy, jumping up. "I wonder if I can remember the words old Mombi said, and the way she held her hands up."

He thought it over for a minute, and as he had watched carefully from the hedge every motion of the old witch, and listened to her words, he believed he could repeat exactly what she had said and done.

So he began by sprinkling some of the magic powder of life from the pepper-box upon the body of the saw-horse. Then he lifted his left hand, with the little finger pointing upward, and said: "Weaugh!"

"What does that mean, dear father?" asked Jack, curiously.

"I don't know," answered Tip. Then he lifted his right hand, with the thumb pointing upward, and said: "Teaugh!"

"What's that, dear father?" inquired Jack.

"It means you must keep quiet!" replied the boy, provoked at being interrupted at an important moment.

How fast his learning! remarked the pumpkinhead, with his eternal smile.

Tip now lifted both hands above his head, with all the fingers and thumbs spread out, and cried in a loud voice: "Teaugh!"

Immediately the saw-horse moved, stretched its legs, yawned with its chopped-out mouth, and shook a few strains of the powder off its back. The rest of the powder seemed to have vanished into the body of the horse.

"Good!" called Jack, while the boy looked on in astonishment. "You saw a very clever sorcerer, dear father!"

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